



Take Note

Editorial By Pete Scisco

Staying organized with your Palm OS device requires more than tracking appointments and to-do lists. It also means carrying with you tools you need to make notes about important conversations, to capture ideas, and to keep track of random information you can use to build on in the future. With all that's riding on it, don't you wish your Palm note pad could do, well, just a little bit more?

Memo PLUS is a note pad enhancement that extends and expands the used of your note pad with such extras as template support and allowing drawings. Templates are an especially nice touch, especially for meeting notes - you can set it up to have a place to record who attended, the agenda, and the flow of the conversation. Fast access is available to all of your memos through the icon buttons at the bottom of the program screen, including a pop-list of all your memo templates. Alarms can be attached to memos - no more notes in your appointment book or to-do list where they might get lost or forgotten, Memo PLUS costs \$19.95 and a demo version is available from [Hands High Software](#).

Smaller but no less useful enhancements to your memo pad are available if you download the free [Snap! Memo](#) utility. Imagine if you could hop right to the memo you wanted to retrieve by writing the first few characters in its title. True, you sacrifice the quick new memo function, since you have a button for that task it makes a lot more sense to speed your notes

searches. Snap! Memo also files your memos by putting the last memo you retrieve at the top of your list.

Maybe the king of memo pad enhancements - one that can almost be classified as a word processor - is PEdit Pro. You can [download the full \\$32 version here](#).

PEdit breaks the 4K memo pad boundary by using an elegant database format that attaches large notes together without your having to think about it. A scratch pad for boilerplate or often-used text makes cutting and pasting a snap and is a great replacement for the Palm's single-item clipboard. Undo features, word counts, copy, cut, paste editing functions - all of these combine to make PEdit Pro a heavyweight memo pad replacement.

Some note pad enhancements don't make access easier or memos more robust, just more secure. CryptoPad is a free utility that encrypts your notes using Blowfish encryption algorithm. The program also supports different fonts and colors to identify specific entries. It uses the Palm's built-in memo pad database to store unencrypted memos and its own database to store your high-risk notes. You can still search for memos as long as you enter the global password at the start of our session. Palm users who need this kind of lock-and-key security for their note pad can [download it from PalmGear](#).

There are many replacements and utilities available for the memo pad application. Take a few hours to experiment and you'll find one that's noteworthy.

Banking Info

Banking Information

Checking#:
Savings#:
MMA/MRA#:
IRA#:

Action Items

- Banking Info
- Insurance Info
- Meeting Minute
- New Template
- Personal Info

Done

Review PDA Cookbook

Want to keep good food in the palm of your hand? Get real culinary delights from this recipe and cookbook database that you can sync to your Windows PC. Each recipe can hold up to 35 ingredients, so you'll have plenty of room to create anything from five-alarm chili to one of those exotic dinners you find featured in the New York Times magazine.

The program consumes about 100K of Palm memory, but it runs really quick even with its extensive list of recipes. What's more, it can import more recipes from the web (Meal

Master and Master Cook formats - both popular PC recipe programs) into its Windows companion, then send those right to your Palm.

Each recipe accepts up to six categories to help you organize your food files. You'll need those organizing tools, too, because the program can store more than 30,000 recipes (limited to your Palm's memory). If you want to share one of your recipes with a friend who doesn't have the program, you can export the instructions and food list to a memo and beam it over.

-- PS

PDACookbook Categories

Master Category List: (Edit List)

- Appetizer
- Breads
- Italian
- Main Dish
- Meat

This Recipe: Appetizer
Breads

Add >
< Remove

Cancel OK

\$14.95, WakefieldSoft
www.wakefieldsoft.com



News

Palm Suit Filed

The Pinnacle Law Group of San Francisco filed a lawsuit in California last week on behalf of clients who claim that hot syncing their Palms to their PC damaged the computers. The suit did not specify what models of Palms or PCs were involved. Palm has not commented pending review of the suit.

Scan to the Hand

A portable bar code scanner from PSC Inc. was released this week for companies that want to put handheld computers to work on inventory and supply-chain management. The Momentum II bar code scanner module plugs into the Springboard expansion slot of a Handspring Visor and turns the Visor into a portable data collection terminal. More details are available at [PSC's site](#).

New Products

ShadowPlan

If you've ever used a checklist program on your Palm you may have been discouraged that you can't usually keep a list of minor points below major ones, such as small tasks that have to be accomplished to achieve a larger goal. This task manager gives you that option, as well as providing all of the quick organizing tools found in outlining applications. Supports filters, sorting, multiple files and other handy features - including a link to the standard Palm OS apps. Costs \$12.99. [Download demo](#).

BodyFirst

Staying healthy means watching what you eat and getting regular exercise. Keep yourself on track with this handy app that keeps information on both. Record your weight every morning, track as many as five exercise routines, and enter in food data such as calories and fat grams. Costs \$10. [Download demo](#).

MovieRaider

Tired of reading the backs of DVD jewel cases or VHS boxes looking for a good movie? This database of 1200 movies released in the last 5 years is drawn from the InternetMovie Database and is built on the TomeRaider engine. Regular updates are planned. Free. [Download here](#).